REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

Claim 33 has been revised to define the invention with additional clarity. Support for the term "source" can be found, for example, at page 15, line 12. Support for the revisions relating to the forward primer can be found in Figure 1 which shows the forward primer in a variety of locations, which can be read in conjunction with page 15, lines 29-37, teaching a forward primer at or adjacent to the 3' end or the V gene. This is also suggested more generally at page 23, lines 4-6, where such genes may be combined with a synthetic repertoire of DH and JH genes. The third and fourth configurations in Figure 1 show the primer at or adjacent to the end of the variable domain, and page 14, lines 15-20, also teach that the primer may be in the constant domain. Thus, as a whole the specification teaches that the forward primer may be directed to an immunoglobulin sequence downstream from the end of the V gene.

Basis for new claim 66 can be found at page 21, lines 13-19. This portion of the disclosure describes cloning of a target sequence including the first two CDRs of a VH gene. The vector into which the amplified CDRs are inserted is provided to reconstitute a complete VH gene and is said to contain the N-terminal end of (an immunoglobulin gene) first framework region, cloning sites (for insertion of the amplified first two CDRs), and then the C-terminal end of a third framework region, a third CDR and fourth framework region (of an immunoglobulin gene). In order to reconstitute a complete VH

gene it is implicit that the region being amplified must include not only the two CDRs but also the N-terminal end of the third framework region, to match up with the C-terminal end of this region in the cloning vector. The 5' end of the target sequence being amplified is also implicitly within the N-terminal end of the target VH sequences since the N-terminal itself is provided by the cloning vector.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: Mary J. Wilson

Mary J. Wilson
Reg. No. 32,955

MJW:lmo
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100